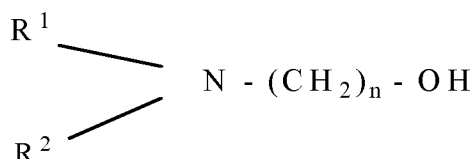


REMARKS

Claims 1, 25, 27, 62 and 64 have been amended and claims 24, 26, 61 and 63 have been cancelled. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, 16-22, 25, 27-39, 43, 44, 46-48, 50-59, 62, 64-67, 69-76, 93-97, 99-101, 169-176, 178-191, 194-202 and 208-251 will be pending in this application.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the requirement of cancelled claim 24 that the primary alcohol correspond to the formula



wherein n is an integer ranging from 2 to 20; R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen; -(CH₂)_x-(CH₃), x being an integer ranging from 0 to about 19; -(CH₂)_y-OH, y being an integer ranging from 1 to about 20; (CH₂)_z-COOH, z being an integer ranging from 1 to about 19; or phosphonomethyl. In view of the fact that claim 1, as amended, now includes the requirements of cancelled claim 24, which was previously found to satisfy all the requirements for patentability including enablement or definiteness, applicants submit that claim 1, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has been further amended to require the supporting structure have a yield strength of at least about 100 Mpa and comprise at least about 10% by weight non-copper metal such that the supporting structure is resistant to deformation under the conditions of the dehydrogenation reaction. This amendment was made at the Examiner's request as noted below.

Telephone Interview Summary

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courteous telephone interview conducted on April 19, 2007. During the interview, the Examiner expressed his opinion that the rejections for lack of enablement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and for indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph may be overcome by incorporation into claim 1, the requirements of claim 24, and by similarly amending all other claims including the terms "hydrocarbyl" and "substituted hydrocarbyl". Applicants agreed to amend the claims accordingly and do so by submission of this amendment.

Further, at the request of the Examiner, the undersigned agreed to amend claim 1 to require the supporting structure be resistant to deformation under the conditions of the dehydrogenation reaction. The Examiner indicated that these amendments would place the claims in allowable condition.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should any issues remain unresolved.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees incurred with this amendment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Schuth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" being more legible than the last name "Schuth".

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